

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-10 EUR-12 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02
PA-01 DOE-11 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 DOEE-00
SSO-00 /150 W
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P 081440Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6919
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 03629

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJECT: CCD: FINAL SESSION OF SEISMIC EXPERTS, FIRST
WEEK: FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 3

REF: STATE 51836 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. FIRST WEEK OF FINAL SESSION OF SEISMIC
EXPERTS GROUP WAS DEVOTED TO INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF REPORT
ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE MEASURES TO DETECT AND
IDENTIFY SEISMIC EVENTS. DURING REVIEW OF TEXT, SOVIET
EXPERTS PRESSED TO CHARACTERIZE INTERNATIONAL CENTERS
AS COLLECTING AND EXCHANGING SEISMIC DATA, AND TO REDUCE
OR REMOVE REFERENCE TO IDENTIFICATION FUNCTION. WITH
RESPECT TO EXTENDING MANDATE OF SEISMIC EXPERTS TO CONDUCT
AN EXPERIMENTAL EXERCISE, SOVIETS SOUGHT TO KEEP LANGUAGE
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AS BLAND AND NONCOMMITAL AS POSSIBLE. IN PRIVATE, THEY
INDICATED THAT THEY MIGHT AGREE TO EXTEND CHARTER OF
SEISMIC EXPERTS GROUP FOR A LIMITED TIME AND GIVE THEM
MANDATE TO PLAN EXPERIMENTAL EXERCISE. HOWEVER, THEY
STATED THAT THE ACTUAL CARRYING OUT OF THE EXPERIMENTAL
EXERCISE WAS A SEPARATE QUESTION AND THAT SUCH A TASK
WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR TREATY PARTIES RATHER THAN

THE CCD. END SUMMARY.

2. THE FIFTH AND FINAL SESSION OF THE SEISMIC EXPERTS GROUP, CONVENED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CCD, MET ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, WITH ERICSSON (SWEDEN) CONTINUING AS

CHAIRMAN. U.S. EXPERTS WERE FILSON (ARPA) AND TURNBULL (ACDA), WITH HAGENGRUBER AND KILLIAN (DOE) AS OBSERVERS. THE FIRST WEEK OF THE SESSION WAS DEVOTED TO INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF ELEMENTS OF THE REPORT WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CCD ON MARCH 14. DURING THE WEEK MARCH 6-10 THE SEISMIC EXPERTS WILL GIVE FORMAL CONSIDERATION TO THE TEXT OF THE REPORT, THE APPENDICES, AND A LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL WITH A VIEW TO REACHING CONSENSUS AGREEMENT BY MARCH 10.

3. MOST OF THE CHANGES AND DISCUSSION DURING THE FIRST WEEK INVOLVED RELATIVELY MINOR MODIFICATIONS IN THE REPORT
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TO IMPROVE THE STYLE AND TECHNICAL ACCURACY. THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL SUGGESTIONS WERE WITH RESPECT TO THE INTERNATIONAL DATA CENTERS AND THE PROPOSED SEISMIC DATA EXPERIMENTAL EXERCISE.

4. PASECHNIK (USSR) SUGGESTED CHANGES IN CHAPTER TITLES AND CONTENT THAT WOULD REMOVE THE INFERENCE THAT THE CENTERS WOULD PERFORM EXTENSIVE REDUCTION OR ANALYSIS OF COLLECTED SEISMIC DATA. HE ASKED THAT THEY BE REFERRED TO AS "INTERNATIONAL CENTERS FOR THE COLLECTION AND EXCHANGE OF SEISMIC DATA" NOT AS "DATA CENTERS FOR DETECTION AND LOCATION OF SEISMIC EVENTS AND FOR REDUCTION OF IDENTIFICATION PARAMETERS" AS ORIGINALLY IN THE TEXT (CHAPTERS 1 AND 7). THIS SUGGESTION WAS NOT RECEIVED WITH ENTHUSIASM BY MOST OF THE GROUP. HOWEVER, A CHANGE OF THIS WORDING TO "INTERNATIONAL CENTERS" WAS ACCEPTED WITHOUT FURTHER DEBATE.

5. PASECHNIK CONTINUED TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF SPECIFYING IN THE REPORT THAT DATA CENTERS WOULD BE LOCATED IN WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW. HE WAS ADAMANT THAT THE EXPERTS RECOMMEND THAT A CENTER ALSO BE LOCATED IN THE

SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE. THE SOVIET DELEGATION APPEARED TO HAVE DRAWN BACK FROM THEIR EARLIER POSITION WHICH SPECIFIED MELBOURNE AS THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE DATA CENTER. (THIS COULD HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY INFORMATION CIRCULATED PRIVATELY BY MCGREGOR (AUSTRALIA) THAT, WHILE INTERESTED, THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WAS NOT WILLING AT THIS TIME TO COMMIT TO THE CENTER AT MELBOURNE.) PASECHNIK EVIDENCED A CONSIDERABLE LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR WORDING IN THE TEXT THAT WOULD PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL CENTERS ELSEWHERE. SWEDEN, WITH SUPPORT FROM THE NETHERLANDS, DENMARK, FINLAND, AND NORWAY, STRONGLY OPPOSED REMOVING LANGUAGE IN THE TEXT

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WHICH WAS AMBIGUOUS ON THIS ISSUE. BY THE END OF THE WEEK, COMPROMISE LANGUAGE WAS FOUND WHICH LEAVES THE QUESTION OF OTHER CENTERS OPEN.

6. THE MAIN DIFFICULTY WITH THE CHAPTER ON THE SEISMIC EXERCISE WAS THE INCLUSION OF TWO PARAGRAPHS (P. 91) WHICH STATED THAT THE AD HOC GROUP WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXERCISE, AND THAT THE COSTS WOULD BE BORNE BY THE PARTICIPATING STATES. PASECHNIK FELT THESE PARAGRAPHS WENT BEYOND THE TERMS OF REFERENCE ESTABLISHED BY THE CCD

AND ASKED THAT THEY BE DELETED. AGAIN, WHILE THERE WAS DISPLEASURE IN SEVERAL DELEGATIONS OVER THIS CHANGE, BY WEEKS' END HIS SUGGESTED DELETION WAS MADE. ACCEPTANCE OF THE DELETION MAY HAVE BEEN FACILITATED BY A STATEMENT BY ERICSSON THAT SWEDEN AND, PERHAPS, OTHER DELEGATIONS PLANNED TO PROPOSE NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AD HOC
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GROUP TO THE CCD DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 12.

7. IN THE COURSE OF PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS THE SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD PROBABLY BE PREPARED TO EXTEND THE CHARTER OF THE EXPERTS GROUP FOR A SHORT PERIOD AND MANDATE THE PLANNING OF AN EXPERIMENTAL EXERCISE. HOWEVER, THE SOVIETS HAVE STRESSED THAT TO AUTHORIZE ACTUALLY CARRYING OUT THE EXERCISE WOULD BE A SEPARATE QUESTION. IN THIS REGARD THEY THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR THE TREATY PARTIES TO CONDUCT THE EXERCISE RATHER THAN A GROUP UNDER CCD AUSPICES.

8. COMMENT: IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE SOVIETS ARE CO-ORDINATING THEIR POSITION ON TIMING AND PARTICIPATION IN THE SEISMIC EXERCISE WITH THEIR POSITION IN THE TRILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON CTB. SORENSON

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